the Lions' Pride

Of Saint Leo University

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2003 VOLUME XXXVII NO. 5 SINCE 1965

Today

An Interview with a Vietnam Vet

More than two million Americans fought in Vietnam. Many lost their lives. As a tribute to Veteran's Day, here is one man's memories of that war. Page 3

The Curtain Has Come Down

"The Importance of Being Earnest" ran from Oct. 24 to Oct. 27. The play was a success, and the audience left with smiles. Page 5

Veterans' Day Ceremony

Saint Leo University celebrates Veterans' Day with its traditional ceremony held on Tuesday, Nov. 11, at 11:30 a.m. at the flagpole. Page 4

Arts & Entertainment

Read an interview with Jon Cassar, the director of the hit television show "24." Check out the music review of Mandy Moore's latest release, "Coverage." Start planning your holiday wish list by reading what Nintendo has planned for the season. Discover what two graduating seniors at Pepperdine University in Los Angeles did when facing the harsh reality that adulthood was inevitable. Pages 6-7

Student community important part of meal plan decision

The administration wanted to retain the student community, while still offering options for meal plans.

BY NATASHA FREDERICKS
Editor for The Lions' Pride

SAINT LEO - Recently, Saint Leo University created some new meal plans for the resident students of the apartments. Some people like the new meal plans because it offers students a more economical and convenient dietary plan, as well as providing students with a more mature atmosphere, while retaining some of the traditional, on-campus lifestyle.

"My meal plan is great, and the schedule works for me," junior Tashevia Culmer said.

Mimi Philistin, a junior, concurs with Culmer.

"The meal plan is straight," she said. "The unlimited plan works for me."

However, some students are seeking improvements to the new plans.

"The meals have improved over the past year, and they [the school] have done a great job with the new food line," said senior William Sing. "However, the limited meal plans don't give students enough options, at least not for those living in the new apartments."

Photographs by Julia Carroll
Some students who live in the new apartments would like to see changes made to the new meal plans.

Another concern of students is the loss of bonus bucks for students on the B and C plans.

"Well, why were our bonus bucks taken away?" asks Jenny Rhiner, senior.

According to Dr. Edward Dadez, vice president for student affairs, students don't receive bonus bucks unless they are on the unlimited plan.

"Bonus bucks were not figured into the cost of the five or ten meal plan. If this was included, the price would just go up for both these meal plans," explained Dadez.

Dadez also explained that the administration had several ideas and goals concerning the new meal plan.

"The reason we came up with different meal plans is the apartments had either kitchens or kitchenettes, so we thought they

MEAL PLAN PAGE 4

Help to preserve Saint Leo Abbey orange groves

BY PUBLIC RELATIONS
A special to The Lions' Pride

SAINT LEO – Saint Leo continues its tradition of service on Saturday, Nov. 8 as volunteers for the annual Community Service Day work at three sites that are close to the heart of Saint Leo - the Grotto, Abbey orange groves, and the Holy Name Monastery.

"This is an important way in which we build Community and serve as Responsible Stewards," said Dr. Arthur F. Kirk, Jr., president of Saint Leo University. "This year we have a special opportunity to serve the Benedictine communities that founded and nurtured us and still support us today."

The orange groves have a special historical significance for the Abbey. The oranges and grapefruits produced in the groves literally helped to build the Church of the Holy Cross. The sandstone trim, alters, and carved oak furnishings were supplied by St. Meinard Abbey in Indiana in exchange for oranges from the Abbey grove. The church is fondly known as the church that orange juice built, and was consecrated 1948.

During check-in at the Lion's Lounge, volunteers will be served a continental breakfast from 7 to 8 a.m. in the McDonald Center. Service work will be from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., followed by lunch served in the McDonald Center. To volunteer, contact Vicki Fredrickson at (352) 588-8221 or vicki.fredrickson@saintleo.edu or visit her office in the Marion Bowman Activities Center.

Opinions

EDITORIAL

Nobel Peace Prize winner deserves recognition

BY ASHLEY PIERSON
Iowa State Daily (Iowa State U.)

(U-WIRE) AMES, Iowa — Last month Shirin Ebadi made history: She was the first Iranian woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize. Never heard of her before? I wouldn't be surprised — this commemorable occasion seemed to be brushed aside by the mass media. Neither the Ames Tribune nor the Des Moines Register ran stories on the subject, and I wouldn't have known, either, if I hadn't seen it on MTV News. Yes, MTV News.

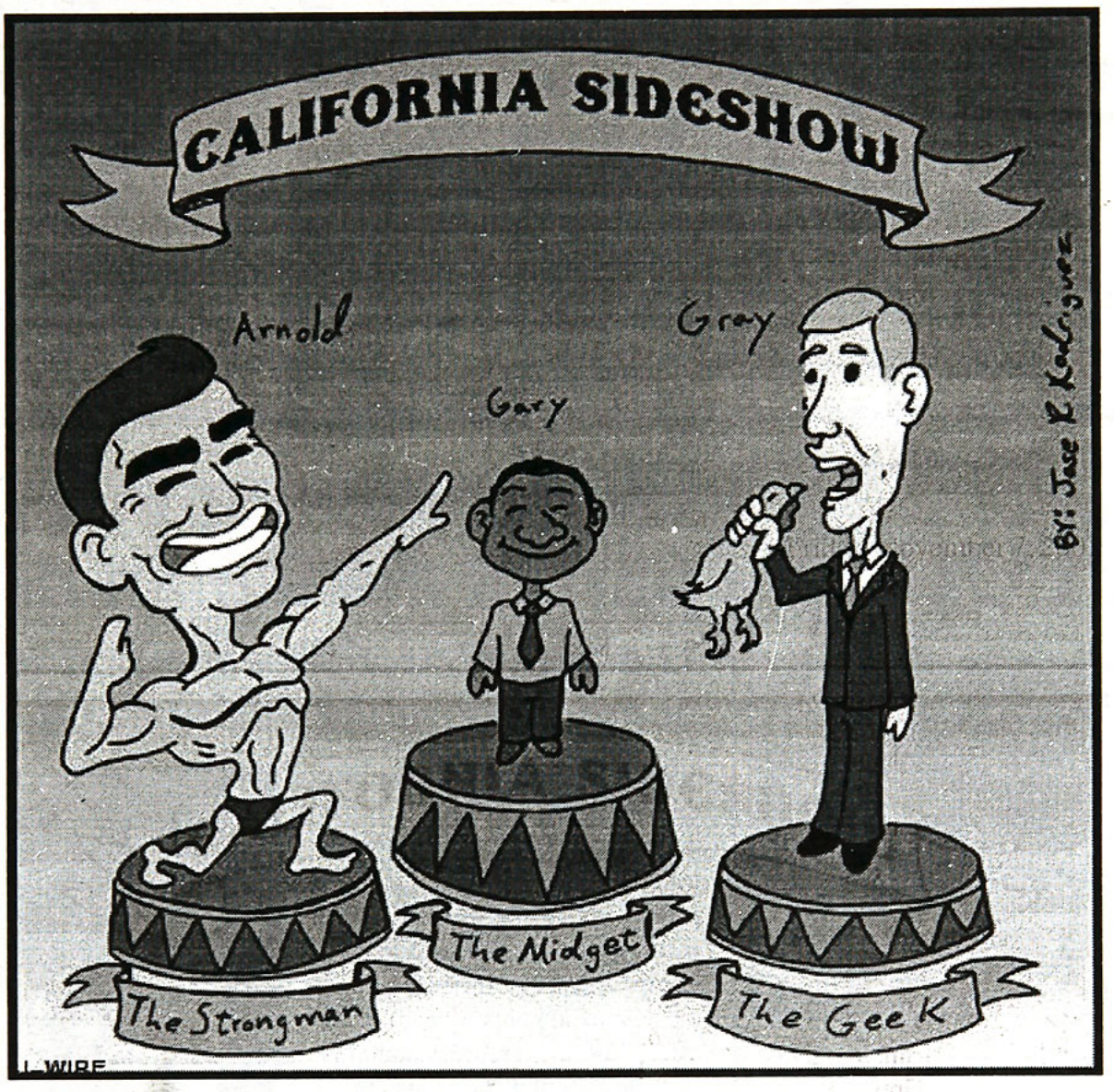
MTV's little blurb made me curious enough to want to investigate it more. What I found was a story of a woman who should be looked up to and admired by cultures all over the world. So to make up for the local media's lack of coverage, here I bring to you the tale of one of the most strongest and admirable women no one knows about.

On Oct. 10, Shirin Ebadi, an Iranian judge, lawyer, and activist, was awarded the 2003 Noble Peace Prize for her role in women's and children's rights, her bold efforts toward democracy, and her unrelenting strength when it came to standing up for what she believed in. She is the first Iranian to ever receive this prestigious award, and only the tenth woman to do so in the prize's 102-year history, according to the Nobel e-Museum Web site (www.nobel.se/peace).

Ebadi boasts a pretty impressive resume. She received her law degree from the University of Tehran, and from 1975-79, she worked as the president of the city court of Tehran. There, she became the first female judge in Iran, until a revolution banned women from serving on the bench.

Not to be discouraged by the setbacks, Ebadi continued practicing law, but also started researching and speaking out on her ideas of equal rights for refugees, women, and children. She is the founder and leader of the Association for Support of Children's Rights in Iran and has written many children's books focusing on human rights. Many of her books have been translated into other languages, and published with the help of the United Nations Children's Fund. Ebadi is also known for promoting peaceful solutions to democratic problems in society.

Ebadi has practiced law for most of her professional life, a controversial occupation that has gotten her suspended and even landed her behind bars. She served as the attorney for the families of the victims of serial murders in 1999-2000. It was her research that unveiled the responsible party for attacks on a Tehran University dorm that killed several students. In 2000, she was put in jail and accused of dispensing a taped confession of a violent militiaman. She was stripped of her right to practice law, only to have the power reinstated a short time later.



I am forgetting one important item in the life and times of Shirin Ebadi — she is a Reformed Muslim. She has argued for an new interpretation of Islamic law, one that includes harmony between cultures, equality before the law, democracy, religious freedom, and freedom of speech.

Ebadi has always supported her ideas, even when they weren't popular. She was accused of forcing "Western-backed" campaigns into Iran and trying to dismantle the traditional Islamic system. She was deemed a foe by some Iranian government officials, or "hard-liners." Some even criticized her refusal to wear the traditional Iranian woman's veil, the hijab.

What I find so amazing about Shirin Ebadi is how much she is loved and accepted by her country. When the Noble Peace Prize news broke, Ebadi was in France. Upon returning, more than 5,000 people gathered around the airport, forming the biggest pro-reform rally since June. Even her naysaying Iranian government enemies offered her public congratulations.

It is clear how much Ebadi loves her country, as well. She has dedicated her life and work to fighting for the rights of Iranians. According to an MSNBC.com article, the day after winning her prize, she said, "I will go back to Iran because I am Iranian and I want to die in my country."

When asked to comment on the future of Iran's youth, she said only this: "I hope that today's young people can do much more and do better for our country than I did."

Clearly, Shirin Ebadi is a perfect role model not only for women, but both genders. She is a strong person who stands up for what she believes in, no matter what the consequences.

I think she more than deserves the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize and may she continue to be a role model for people wanting to make a difference worldwide.

WRITE HERE

The Lions' Pride newsroom is located in portable #4, which is on the west side of St. Edward's Hall. Our phone number is (352) 588-8195.

Send letters to the editor to lions.pride@saintleo.edu

Letters to the editor must be submitted with student's name, year, and major. Faculty and staff members must include rank and department.

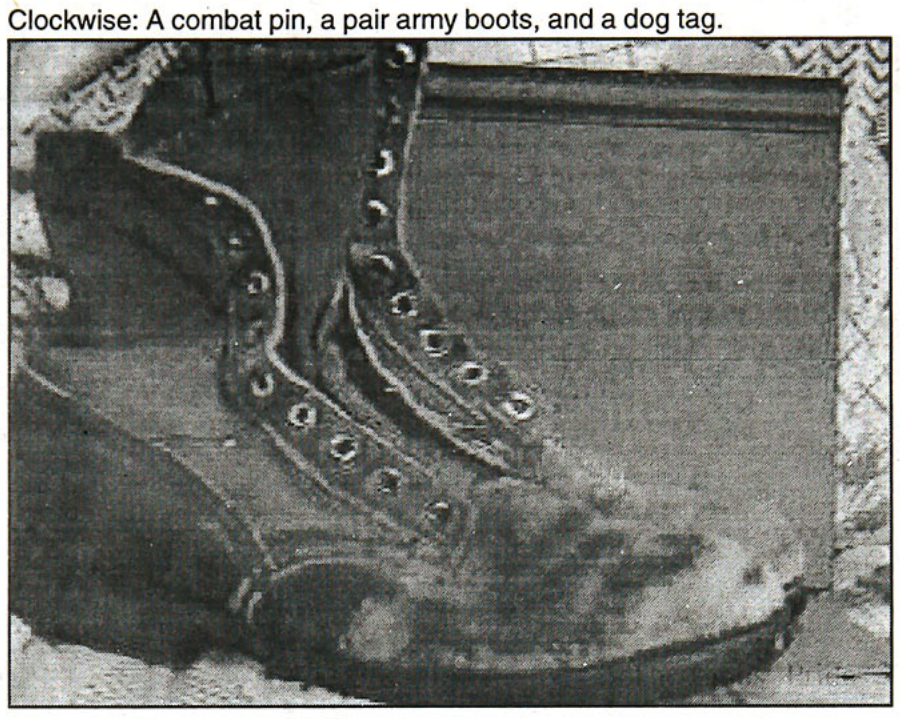
Please include a phone number (not for publication) so we can verify authorship. All letters are subject to editing.

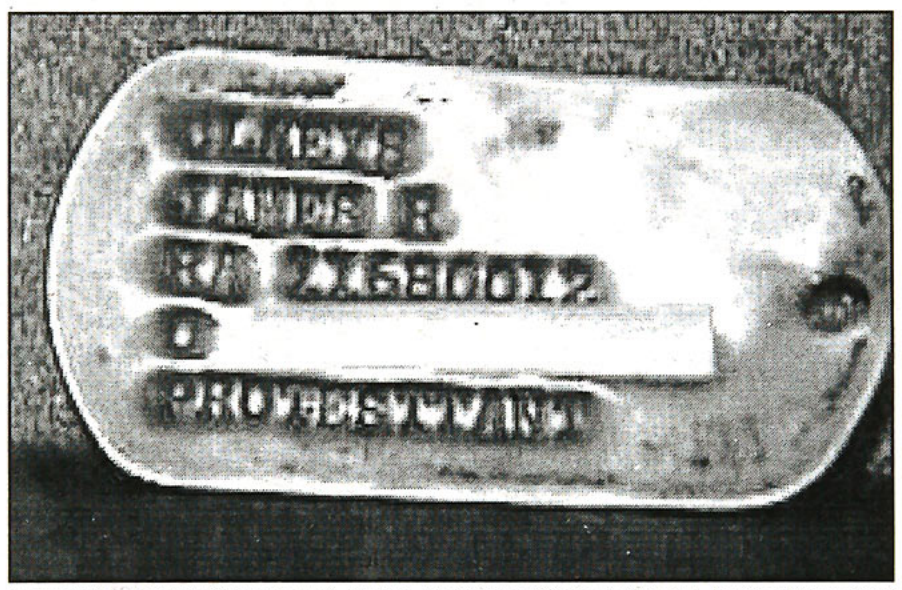
The Lions' Pride reserves the right not to publish any letter or column.

LIONS' PRIDE STAFF

Staff:
Tasha Fredericks (editor)
Rachel Blackwood
Michelle Bonner
Alexandria Cronin
Sidney Carlan
Julia Carroll (photographer)
Sarah Froelich
September Harrison
Bryan McCabe
Jennifer Reilley
Francine Rosario
Advisors:
Dr. Mark Edmonds
Miss Sarah Hard
Mrs. Valerie Kasper

Clockwise: A combat pin, a pair army boots, and a dog tag.





A special thank you to Sgt. James R. Claeys, 4th Infantry Division in Vietnam, for the pictures used in this article. His website address is http://community-2.webtv.net/jrc48/VIETNAMWARAUDIOAND.

VIETNAM

More than two million Americans fought in Vietnam; 58,000 died there.

BY STEVE GRAY II
A special to The Lions' Pride

SAINT LEO - With all that has happened in Iraq, I thought it might be helpful to find out more about the last major war the U.S. was involved in: Vietnam. I interviewed my uncle, David Gray, a Vietnam veteran, about experiences he went through during the war.

What do you remember most about life in Vietnam?

I was in Vietnam from May 1969 to May 1970. I remember the country was very different; I remember the heat and the beauty. I was stationed on the coast near Hue in the northern part of South Vietnam, which was very beautiful. I also remember the Vietnamese people, who led simple lives and were very friendly with a positive nature. They seemed to respect the American troops and appreciate us.

What were you doing during the early years of the conflict, 1963-1968?

I was finishing high school and attending college until June of 1968. I entered the service in December and went to Vietnam six months later.

What did you do when you returned home until the end of the war in 1975?

When I returned home, I went back to college. By 1973 I was a teacher at a local high school, and in 1975 I got married.

How was your family affected during the conflict?

While I was in Vietnam, my family continued with their lives in Boston. I was the only member of my family in Vietnam. My brother got married, but I could not attend his wedding. I wrote to my family on a regular basis, and they wrote to me. I even called one time on a Sunday morning, which was actually dinner time Saturday night in the United States.

Was the United States at a disadvantage because they went to a country they knew little about?

Yes. In a sense, the government did not understand what was happening in Vietnam. It was not just Communism trying to take over country after country, like the domino theory states. It was the North Vietnamese wanting to unify the country. The people in North Vietnam and their leader, Ho Chi Minh, wanted to make North and South one country. The government of North Vietnam happened to be Communist, which is what scared us. We thought that if North Vietnam took over South Vietnam, they would take away people's rights and freedom, which is exactly what they did.

What is the single most important thing students today should learn about Vietnam?

Vietnam was very, very complicated. Before we get into a situation like this agian, we should have as much information as possible. We did not know much about what was going on over there before we made a mass commitment of forces. That is why, when we get into places like Iraq, we have to understand as much as possible. The United States government also needs the commitment of the American people.

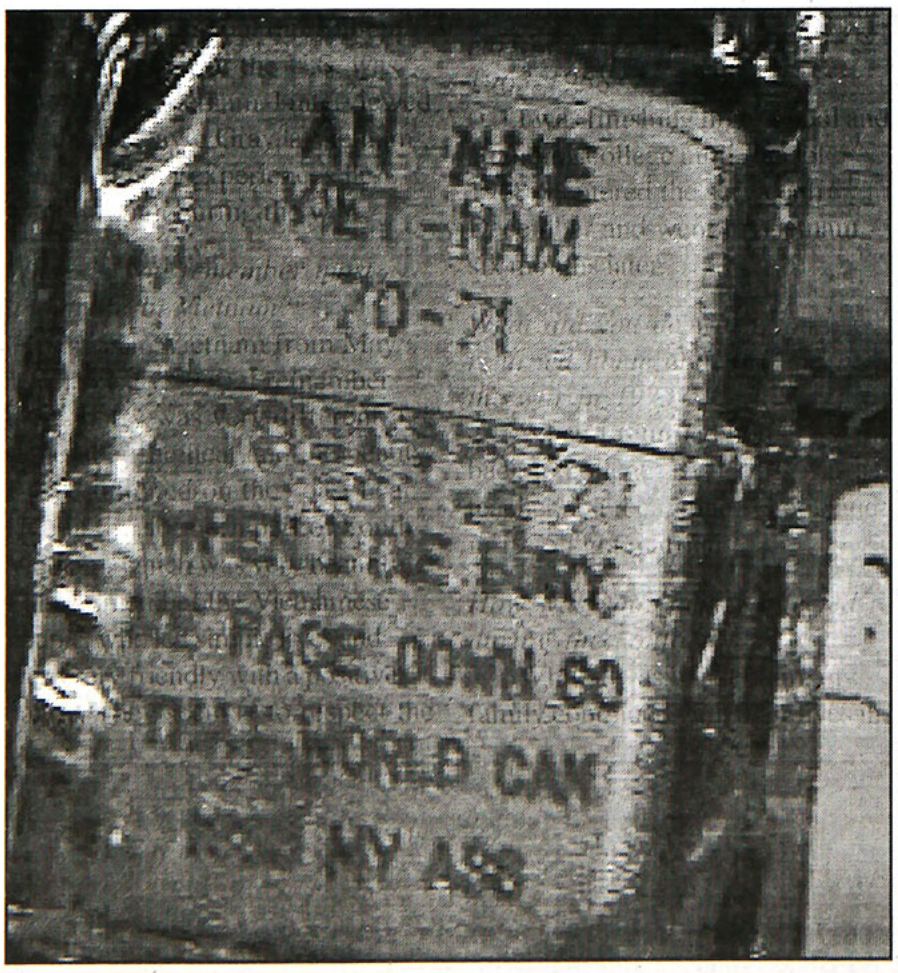
At the end of the Vietnam conflict, did you feel it was a success or a failure? And why?

Generally speaking, it was a failure. We went in with the idea of protecting the South Vietnamese people, and were not able to do that. It was a noble attempt on the part of our government, but Americans lost heart.

Is there anything else about the war that you would like to talk about?

Yes, the fact that over 55,000 American soldiers were killed there who were between the ages of 18 and 25. There were many young soldiers, men and women, who gave their lives trying to keep South Vietnam free. This is a very important point we should not forget. These soldiers never had a chance to live their lives because they did what they thought was their duty. Today, there are many Vietnam veterans who have injuries or crippling diseases. Some have psychological wounds that still haunt them from the horrors of war.

Overall, it was a noble cause to get involved in Vietnam. In retrospect, it was a mistake; but it was a major attempt on our part to do the right thing and help the South Vietnamese people.



The inscription on this lighter states: "When I die, bury me face down so the world can kiss my ass."

Ready for Occupancy

Photograph courtesy of SLU Public Relations

In honor of the recent completion of two new residence halls and the receipt of a $2.5 million scholarship bequest, Saint Leo University dedicated residence halls and the De Groote Scholars Courtyard on Saturday, Oct. 25, at 10 a.m.

The De Groote Scholars Courtyard honors the lives and memory of Gaston and Evelyn De Groote, whose bequest of more than $2.5 million established the Gaston R. and Evelyn De Groote Scholarship Awards Trust, the largest gift ever received by Saint Leo University.

The picture shows the De Groote family receiving a plaque of appreciation.

MEAL PLAN CON'T

[students] may not need to eat in the dining hall [as much as students in the'other buildings]," Dadez said. "We decided apartments with kitchenettes could have a ten meal plan (or the unlimited meal plan), and students with kitchens could have a five meal plan (or the unlimited or ten meal plan)."

In addition, Dadez said the administration felt that student community was important and should not be compromised.

"Despite the kitchens, we wanted to encourage students to build community by having a convenient location to eat lunch, plus we believed most students eat lunch there anyway," he said. "We also felt that students who live in the apartments may miss out on some of the community environment. For this same reason, we offered meal plans for commuters, so they can socialize with on-campus students in the dinning hall because it is important that the Saint Leo community comes together."

Yet, some students, like junior William "Mr. C" Delorie, still have concerns about the limitations of the meal plan. Delorie would prefer his meals be carried over each week.

"I only have five, and some weeks I like to cook more then others, so the following week I would like to see a few more meals on my card," he said. "I would like it to be like the new phone plans with roll over meals rather then minutes. That would be excellent."

It seems Student Affairs had not considered rollover meals.

"What we did do was figure out about what the cost of a meal would be per student and created an equation so we could figure out how many meals a student would eat a week, and then determined the cost of each meal plan."

So what about next year? Should we anticipate a new set of plans?

"We think we will continue to use these same meal plans for all students, either unlimited with equivalency and bonus bucks, or the five or ten meals without the bonus or equivalence," Dadez said.

During the conclusion of the interview, Dadez added, "To those living in the apartments I hope you are all cooking well."

A summary of Saint Leo's meal plan:

1. **Ultimate Dining Experience at Crossroads** consists of unliinited meals, as well as four equivalency meals, and $100 in bonus bucks that can be spent in the Cage Snack Shop, the Abbey Road Tavern, the Coffee House, or for purchasing guest meals in the dining hall.
2. **Meal Plan B** includes any ten meals per week. With this plan, meals that are not used are lost. This plan, as well as plan C, are only available to students living in the new apartments. Students with a kitchenette need to have either the Ultimate Dining Experience at Crossroads or plan B. (New)
3. **Meal Plan C** includes any five meals per week. With this plan, meals do not carry over to the next week. This plan and plan B are only available to students living in the apartments with a complete kitchen. They may also purchase the Ultimate Dining Experience at Crossroads or Plan B. (New)
4. **The Commuter Plan** allows commuter students to buy ten meals for $62.50. These students may divide their meals into a fund called monarch money, and this can be used in the McDonald Center (dining room), the Abbey Road Tavern, and the Cage Snack Shop.

Briefs

Veterans' Day Ceremony

from Public Relations

SAINT LEO – Saint Leo University celebrates Veterans' Day with its traditional ceremony held on Tuesday, Nov. 11, at 11:30 a.m. at the flagpole on the green between Saint Francis and Saint Edward halls. The public is invited to attend.

During the month of October, Saint Leo faculty, staff, and students have personally expressed thanks and encouragement by writing letters, cards, and poems to be personally delivered to veterans who live locally. Saint Leo students are competing for the best essay honoring American veterans to be judged by Dr. Mary Spoto, professor of English and department chair, and Dr. Jack McTague, professor of history.

At the ceremony on Tuesday, the best essay will be read by the student author. Anthony Domingo '04 will sing God Bless America and MacDill Center Director Fred Ramlow will speak. After the ceremony, the Veterans' Day wreath, letters, poems, and cards will be delivered to the local veterans' nursing home.

The public is invited to join in with the effort of writing cards, letters, and poems for veterans. Send your expressions of thanks to: Cheryl Beaudoin, Registrar's Office, P.O. Box 6665, Saint Leo, FL 33574-6665.

The curtain has come down

BY SARAH FROELICH
Staff Writer for The Lions' Pride

SAINT LEO - On opening night, the feeling backstage was a mix between nervousness and excitement. Costumes were draped over the clothes rack, waiting for the second act. Makeup was sitting on the counter. Actors were standing behind the curtain, waiting to make their entrances.

The evening began with a one-act sketch by Samuel Beckett entitled "Catastrophe." Senior Jennifer Jolly, who played the protagonist, explained it.

"'Catastrophe' is about layers of suffering," she said. "With my character… and my costume, I'm making a statement about who or what group I feel is stared at, judged, and found lacking in society."

The rest of the cast of "Catastrophe" included freshman Josh Walker (the director), sophomore Michelle Bonner (director's assistant), and freshman Julia Carroll (Luka).

"The Importance of Being Earnest" was performed immediately after "Catastrophe." Dr. Charles Grimes, the play's director, seemed very pleased with the progress.

"I think [the cast] did wonderfully. Their dedication brought their skill out," he said.

When asked how he felt about the crowd's reaction, Grimes said, "They are having a good time following the play and understanding it."

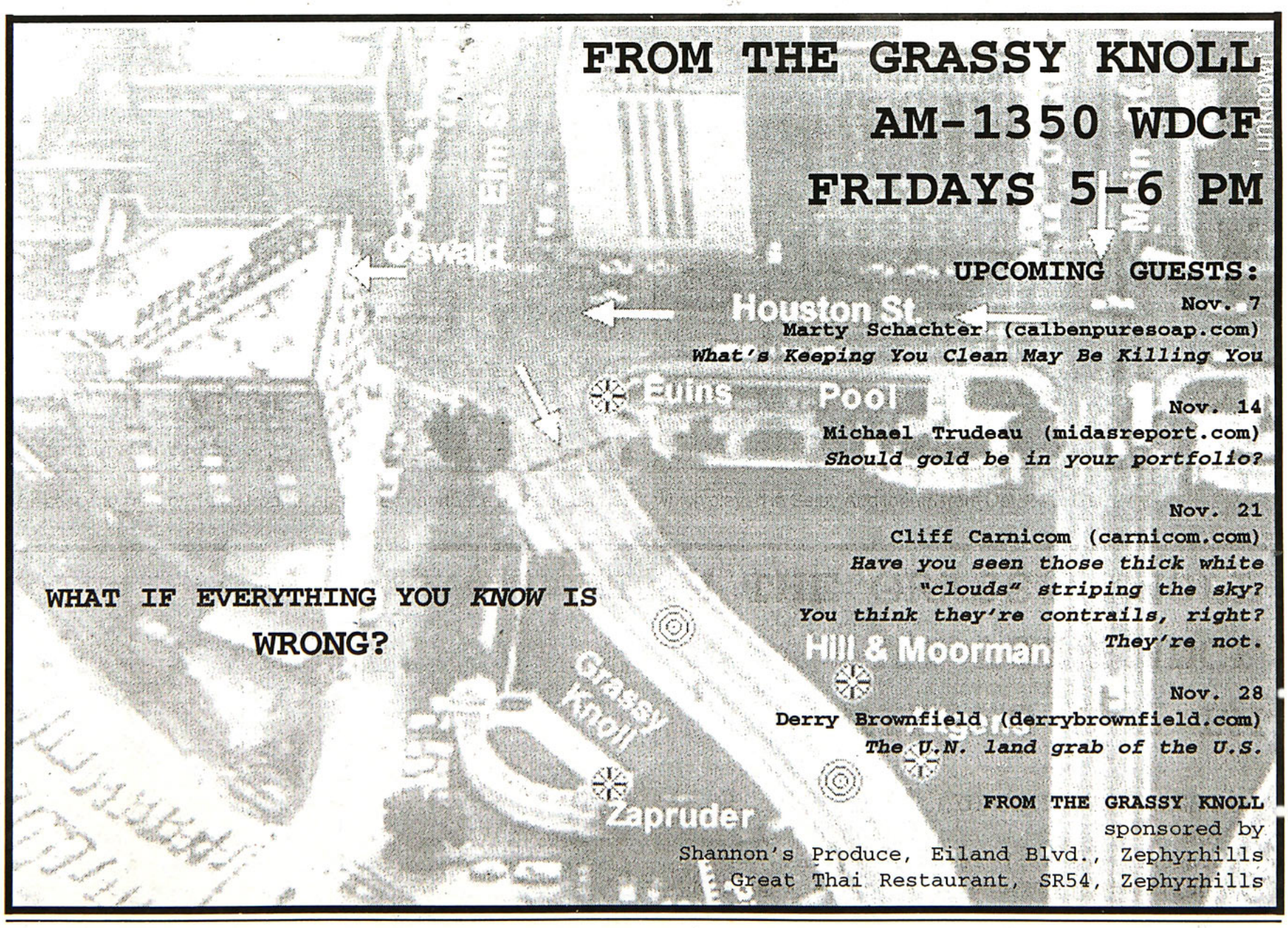
Backstage, Julia Carroll and Charlene Stryhal moved set pieces and props. Carroll commented on her position as stage manager.

" It's fun," she said. " I like doing it. I've had lots and lots of help, and for being thrown into it last minute, it's been awesome."

The crowd did seem to enjoy the plays. There was lots of laughter during the play, and the audience left with smiles.

Photographs by Julia Carroll

The cast and crew of "Catastrophe" and "The Importance of Being Earnest," which played in Selby Auditorium from Oct. 24 to Oct. 27.



Arts & Entertainment

TVENTERTAINMENT

Interview: TV director Jon Cassar lives dream on '24'

BY TIM RICCHUITI
Daily Trojan (U. Southern California)

(U-WIRE) LOS ANGELES - On the set of "24," Jon Cassar watches a scene rehearsal. The fictional President of the United States authorizes that a helicopter be brought down by force.

"Action!"

After two takes, Cassar, director and producer of the Emmy-nominated Fox hit, is happy with the result, and cast and crew break for lunch. Cassar's office is filled with actors' photographs, notes and press for the show, and, on top of a shelf on the left wall of the office, a bear trap. It is intimidating. Cassar, fortunately, is more accessible than his bear trap would indicate. He is just what one would expect from a successful former film student.

"I don't know who starts out wanting to be anything else," Cassar said about his university years and original aspirations to be a film director. "Television is so challenging now, in today's day and age, that it's a great place to be as a director."

Recently, "24" filmed upcoming scenes from the new season in Bovard Auditorium.

Cassar explained that next season's plot includes a presidential debate which was filmed in USC's auditorium.

Cassar went on to explain that many presidential debates are filmed at universities, and USC was a natural choice to film the scene.

"I think it was a little personal for me when they said what university do you want to start looking at, and I said USC right away. I said, well, I always wanted to go there as a film student, but now that I'm a film director maybe I can go back and shoot something there instead. And that's exactly what we did."

"As a kid, whose dream in film wasn't to go to USC?" he said.

Cassar graduated from a radio and television program at Algonquin College in Toronto. While working for a local cable station, shooting, editing, and producing his own segments, Cassar bought a steadicam and learned how to use it at a program in Rockport, Maine. He eventually went on to teach at the workshop alongside inventor Garret Brown.

"It wasn't brand new, but it was new enough that I knew everybody else that was doing it in North America," he said

"It's great when you're in school. It's all very idyllic and it's all going to be great, but then reality sets in and you want to make a living," he said.

Cassar began work on a Canadian cop/vampire drama titled "Forever Knight." There, the producers and actors liked what he did with his camera enough to give him a shot directing an episode. While getting the first break was hard, getting the second was no easier.

"It's not like everybody was knocking on my door because I did one episode of 'Forever Knight,'" Cassar said. However, he began to do just what he set out to do: Make money as a director in television.

He met Joel Surnow, executive producer of "24," while working on "La Femme Nikita," a television series for the USA cable network based on the film of the same name.

"The guys who came up with the show, Joel Surnow and Robert Cochran, they're the guys that came up with the concept. I know them from 'La Femme Nikita,' the television show. We did that together, and so that's where our relationship started, and we have the same sort of head space when it comes to these kinds of shows," Cassar said.

That relationship led to Cassar directing two episodes of "24's" first season, 10 of the second, along with a producer credit on the show, and now another 10 of the third.

"You and I can't go [to a network] and say, hey, I got a great idea, they'd say great," Cassar said. "These guys could walk in with the same idea and they'd make a show about it."

Cassar was nominated for an Emmy for the first time in his career earlier this year. "It's very exciting," he said. "I like it for the people — to me it's special for the people that work on the show."

"People have a plan. Some never work out. Mine did," Cassar said.

MUSIC IN REVIEW

Coverage Mandy Moore

BY JENNIFER REILLY
Staff Writer for The Lions' Pride

SAINT LEO - There's something about transforming yourself to be something you're not that is empowering. Imagine for a moment who you would be if you could be someone other than yourself. You could be someone famous, a singer or an actor, or maybe someone less recognized like a farmer or a teacher. Whomever it is you chose to be, your soul would remain, but you would take on their appearance, disposition, and talents.

In Mandy Moore's new CD, *Coverage*, she sings the songs of the past, adding a little bit of her soul. Music can transport you out of the stress of everyday life into a world of new emotions. As a musician, it must be an honor to remake classic music coming from artists such as Cat Stevens, Elton John, and Joni Mitchell. Some may believe that covering other people's music is cheap and unoriginal, but sometimes remaking classics can remind people of the origins of modern pop. Moore sings of heartbreak, friendship, and the simple occurrences of everyday life.

The first single off of *Coverage*, "Have A Little Faith in Me," originally by John Hiatt, describes friendship and dependability; "When the road gets dark/ And you can no longer see/ Let my love throw a spark/ Have a little faith in me." Although Moore sings of sincere and emotional things, lyrics can become amusing, especially in the song "Drop the Pilot." "Drop the Pilot" tells the tale of a girl who is trying to convince a guy to break up with his girlfriend. She tells him he is "using an army to fight a losing battle." She tells the guy that "If you lose that pilot, I'll come fly your plane." The "covering" of songs has grown quite common, especially within the world of punk rock. Moore may take a more "bubble gum" approach than New Found Glory or Less Than Jake, but the idea is the same: In order to immerse yourself in music, the influence of others is required. Coverage was released Oct. 21. If you're a fan, there is a deluxe edition of the CD that includes a DVD with extra features about Moore's career.

Other recent releases include" Room on Fire - The Strokes In Time: The Best of R.E.M. 1988-2003 [Limited 2 Disc Set] - R.E.M., Must I Paint You A Picture: Essential Billy Bragg - Billy Bragg, December - The Moody Blues, Live In Seattle, WA 9.16.03 - Jimmy Buffett.

Nintendo set on taking back industry

BY ZACH LEE
The Daily Cougar (U. Houston)

(U-WIRE) REDMOND, Wa. - When parents rush to the stores this holiday season, they'll have to weigh their spending limits with a seemingly endless shopping list. But at least one company is hoping to nudge its way onto that list of "must-haves."

The big change in marketing came when Nintendo dropped the price of its GameCube. Even with the drop, the GameCube still lags behind Microsoft's Xbox by about 500,000 units, Tom Harlin, a public relations manager at Nintendo, told reporters Friday.

Harlin went on to say that the price drop has helped the company make up for some of the loss, saying that the company has tripled, or in some cases, quadrupled the number of units sold per store. But the company isn't relying on those numbers, and it has four new games coming out this season to help bolster its image among the gaming industry.

"Fire Emblem," a turn-based strategy game for Game Boy Advance, offers an incredibly frustrating twist on the genre. Most turn-based strategy games allow the player to somehow revive or resurrect characters who die in battle. "Fire Emblem" doesn't.

Rich Amtower and Tim O'Leary, the pair who translated and rewrote the original Japanese version of the game, explained Friday that the decision was made in order to attach players to the characters. Each character has unique weapons, skills and their own history. The death of one may affect the storyline for the rest of the game.

That said, this game involves a much more detailed story line than predecessors like "Advance Wars." Almost as much time is spent developing characters and their relationships as is spent on actual game play. "Fire Emblem" is slated for a Nov. 3 release.

Also on the horizon for the GBA is "Mario and Luigi" At first glance, one thing is obvious: The graphics are terrible. And they stay that

SEE NEXT PAGE

way. What may have started as a nod to lifelong Nintendo fans ended up as an under-utilization of the GBA's capabilities.

The title characters, along with the enemies they encounter, are blocky and unattractive. Even if players can overlook that, the game is still a disappointment. The game only supports one player despite both brothers' simultaneous involvement in the story.

The appearance of classic Mario characters throughout the game is not enough to save it. "Mario and Luigi" is due to be released Nov. 17.

More highly anticipated by fans and the general public alike is the GameCube's "Mario Kart: Double Dash!!," set for a Nov. 17 release. The game is third in the wildly popular "Mario Kart" series, and it offers many new touches. First and most obvious to fans of the series, now two characters ride in each cart. The one in front takes care of the driving and the one in the throws turtle shells and banana peels at other drivers.

Local area network compatibility allows for eight TVs to connect for each race. With two players on each cart, the game allows for 16 people to play at the same time. But each TV needs a GameCube, and each GameCube needs a copy of the game. The game play is fun, the graphics are smooth and two new battle modes are included.

"1080: Avalanche," due out Dec. 1, is standard for the snowboarding genre, but some little things do make it stand out.

Snow builds up on characters as they race down the mountain, and they tense up before they run into trees. The game also marks Nintendo's first foray into licensed music, allowing players to choose their favorite fast-paced song to listen to as they run the course.

Also, the environments are interactive, and players must deal with both slow skiers and falling boulders.

BOOKS IN REVIEW

New book helps to find direction in life

BY LAUREN FREEMAN
Massachusetts Daily Collegian
(U. Massachusetts-Amherst)

(U-WIRE) AMHERST, Mass. - For someone that claimed to have no direction for his life, Mike Marriner has certainly accomplished a lot. With a book and a DVD already under his belt, and representatives from the likes of Teen People and Forbes Magazine looking to get a bit of his time, Marriner seems to have made a career out of not knowing what to do with his life.

In a world where advertisement slogans are declaring 'I don't want to grow up,' and popular children's films like Peter Pan glorify eternal childhood, it isn't surprising that American youths have developed something of a social phobia of growing up. This fear is something many college kids on the cusp of adulthood can relate to.

Marriner and friend Nathan Gebhard, two graduating seniors at Pepperdine University in Los Angeles, were facing the harsh reality that adulthood was inevitable. Both young men hadn't given much thought to what career track was right for them. Instead they had followed in the footsteps of their parents and just assumed that that was the right thing for them to do. Mike was going to enter medicine like both of his parents. Nathan was from a business-minded family and was likewise, following suit.

Fortunately, unlike millions of unsatisfied working-folk everywhere, Mike and Nate stopped in their tracks before it was too late. The two life-long best friends were shocked by the realization that they were headed in the wrong direction. They decided they needed to explore their options. Ideally, they wanted to talk to successful/happy people with interesting careers and find out how these individuals found a self-gratifying path to success.

Marriner and Gebhard, along with friends Mike McCallister and Amanda Gall, pooled their money, bought a RV, and set off on what became a 77-day, 15,000-mile journey through 40 states. During their travels they "cold called" and interviewed more than 80 people working at all kinds of jobs.

The four spontaneous road-rippers filmed the insightful advice of these established men and women and compiled the footage into what became "The Open Road" a TV documentary that aired on WGBY Oct. 19 and is now available on DVD.

What they gathered from interviews with people like the chairman of Starbucks Coffee, the conductor of the Boston Philharmonic and the 78 others was that it was possible to love a job and be happy working for a living. The foursome penned a sort of mission statement, drawing on all that their interviewees had told them along their travels.

"Everywhere you turn people try to tell you who to be and what to do with your life," the Roadtrip Nation Manifesto decrees. "We call that the noise. Block it. Shed it. Leave it for the conformists. As a generation, we need to get back to focusing on individuality. Define your own road in life instead of traveling down someone else's. Listen to yourself. Your road is the open road. Find it."

Marriner and Gebhard have also co-authored a book (along with Joanne Gordon) called, "Roadtrip Nation: A Guide to Discovering Your Path to Life." The book documents the trip in further detail and presents the interviews in written form. Those interested in journalism and interviewing might benefit from a section of practical advice for cold calling, general interview tactics and follow-up.

Massachusetts Daily Collegian: What kind of cameras, how many, and how much footage was recorded?
Mike Marriner: We used DV video, two PT 110's and a Sony VX-2000. We only got the equipment the day before we left. That's why there is a huge jump in time at the beginning of the documentary. We start off in CA and all of a sudden we are in Vermont. We were training ourselves how to film and the first week or so of footage was just awful. But we certainly had enough usable stuff. When we returned to CA and sat down to edit we had compiled over 450 hours of footage.

MDC: Was the trip overall very expensive?
MM: Yes, when we were done with our adventure we had $30,000 of credit card debt. We automatically assumed we were screwed. But when we watched the footage everyone agreed that what we had done was amazing, it was just so good. We were extremely lucky. A couple of months after we returned, "Forbes" magazine did a feature on us. Random House signed us for a book deal, and State Farm Insurance sponsored the TV documentary. Everything fell into place.

MDC: Were you surprised by the wide acceptance of such a spontaneous idea?
MM: Yes and no. I think that this kind of spontaneous on-the-fly filmmaking is becoming more accepted. Society is increasingly subjected to this sort of rough looking footage. It's a dawning of a new era of filmmaking. The power of creativity is thriving. The idea is what's important, not so much the technical aspects anymore.

MDC: Did you learn anything surprising about the country?
MM: I was pleasantly surprised by the state of Iowa. Everyone always says that Iowa is so boring. I found it beautiful and kind of meditative. The sun rising over the cornfields ... it's hard to describe, but I loved it.

MDC: What was the best freebie you received from the people you interviewed?
MM: The guys at Clif Bar literally gave us 2,000 Clif Bars. We were living off of them. It was awesome because we were very concerned about how we were going to pay for food. We saved an incredible deal of money ... and they're healthy.

MDC: What would you consider the main philosophy of "Road Trip Nation?"
MM: It can all be broken down into the difference between two of the people we interviewed. On the one hand there are people like Starbucks chairman Howard Schultz, a guy who has built a million dollar coffee empire and is damned happy about it. Then there are those of us like Manny the lobsterman. He's a humble dude, loves lobster. Studied computers but decided his true nature was that of a lobsterman. The philosophy is applied at an entirely individual level. There are people that dream of plugging numbers. They are best suited to be accountants and that is fine ... as long as it fulfills them as a person. All of this is elaborated on in the book and on our Web site (www.roadtripnation.com).

Sports

Photograph courtesy of SLU Athletic Department

There were 130 Saint Leo participants who walked for Breast Cancer Awareness. With the donation received from SGU and the support from the University, the total donation was more than $500.

Saint Leo athletes helped "pass the word."

SLU atheltic teams walked to "pass the word" that early detection of breast cancer saves lives.

BY SEPTEMBER HARRISON
Staff Writer for The Lions' Pride

SAINT LEO - "Pass the word" to as many women as possible: early dectection saves lives.

On October 18, 2003, Saint Leo University athletes participated in a walk for breast cancer at the St. Pete Times Forum in downtown Tampa. The walk took place at 9 a.m. and was a distance of 5k (3 miles). The participants involved from Saint Leo were women's softball, basketball, soccer, volleyball, and golf, along with the men's baseball team and a few other students.

Each year, the third Friday in October is National Mammography Day. On this day, or throughout the month, radiologists provide discounted or free screening mammograms. In 2003, National Mammography Day was celebrated on Oct. 17. Along with National Mammography Day, the walk for breast cancer was formed in order to allow women in all age and ethnic groups, and the general public, to show their support for women who have suffered and survived breast cancer.

This year the event went exceptionally well. There were hundreds of participants; among them was Saint Leo University athletes, lead by Christi Wade, women's athletic director of Saint Leo. Wade was the head organizer of Saint Leo participants.

"I feel strongly on the issue of breast cancer awareness, and I just wanted our school to be involved and show that we care," said Wade. "I also wanted to let the women who have suffered know that Saint Leo University will pass the word on detecting breast cancer."

The "Pass the Word" campaign is depending on the thousands of people around the United States who participate in National Breast Cancer Awareness Month activities each year to "pass the word" about the importance of early detection of breast cancer.

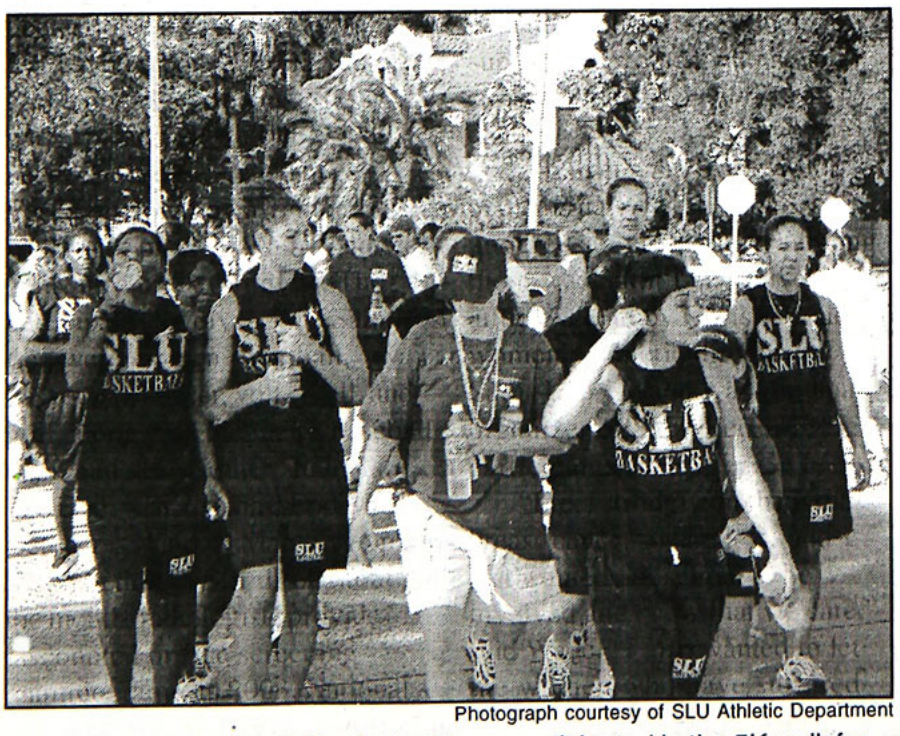
Kerri Reaves, head women's basketball coach, participated and was very pleased on how the event turned out.

"I think it was a wonderful event, and I feel like it humbled a lot of our athletes to see that there are strong women who have suffered from breast cancer and survived it," Reaves said. "I was also especially proud of everyone from Saint Leo who participated. They each walked with a positive attitude and were very respected and appreciated by all the women who had come in contact with breast cancer."

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month is dedicated to increasing awareness of breast cancer issues, especially the importance of early detection of breast cancer.

"This was a great experience for Saint Leo. Hopefully, every year we can show how much we care by participating in Breast Cancer Awareness Month," said Wade.

For anyone who didn't get the chance to show his or her concern and support for breast cancer awareness this year, don't forget to be a participant next year during the month of October.



Photograph courtesy of SLU Athletic Department

The Saint Leo Women's Basketball team participated in the 5K walk for Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Athletic departments can usurp universities

Staff Editorial
Daily Lobo (U. New Mexico)

(U-WIRE) ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Last month a well-known university made a groundbreaking announcement in the field of college athletics.

Tennessee's Vanderbilt University announced it would liquidated its athletic department and merging it with its intramural sports department. Both programs will continue to operate with teams intact, but now control will be shifted to Vanderbilt's central university administration.

Chancellor Gordon Gee said he is restructuring because intercollegiate athletics has become an industry that has grown apart from the primary purpose of education.

Gee's decision is not going to be the beginning of a trend in college athletics, but it is a stance that until now has never been taken before.

Vanderbilt has declared itself an institution that places education above athletics. By doing this, it has created an atmosphere in which other institutions should ask what their focus is.

The university's move is the work of a top administrator who cares about his university enough to address an issue that has gone unresolved for too long.

College athletes are an aristocracy within the campus society, and this is the case only because athletic departments have become bodies independent of the universities they represent.

Athletes are recruited, receive scholarships paying for their tuition and fees, on average have lower academic standards than most students, and they are given access to exclusive facilities and services.

Selecting an education focusing on athletics is not bad; it is just different than a traditional one. The key is maintaining that freedom while adhering to university standards. Vanderbilt's chancellor believes that can be done with the university overseeing athletics.

Collegiate athletics has the power to usurp the primary function of universities. Gee's actions are singularly meant to address this. Athletics are a component of the University, and athletes a component of the student body. Neither part is greater than the whole.

What is important in this issue is that one university has stood up and said, 'Student athletes need to put their roles as students first.'